

BIOGRAPHY OF A MARTYR

Ameer Al-Mu'mineen

Sheikh Abu Omar Al-Baghdadi

(May Allah accept him)





Abu Omar Al-Husseini Al-Qurashi Al-Baghdadi is Hamid bin Dawood bin Muhammad bin Khalil Al-Zawi, born in the village of Al-Zawiya, which is part of the city of Haditha in the Anbar Governorate in 1964. He graduated from the Police College in Baghdad, and his career began as an officer in the Iraqi police in Haditha.

He is known to have had a Salafi ideology, which increased in the 1990s, leading to many harassments from the Ba'ath regime, which was fighting against monotheists who held Salafi beliefs. He was dismissed from the police on the charge of holding a Takfiri Salafi ideology, and Allah granted him the opportunity to leave this sinful work in the early 1990s, in 1993.

After leaving his job, the Sheikh worked in an electrical repair shop near his home, and he was a sincere and honest man known to all the people of his village and the people of Haditha in general, who testify to his integrity and honesty. He frequently visited the "Al-Assaf Mosque," which is close to his house, until he became an imam there. Many young people gathered around him, learning from him, and many of them joined him after the occupation in the path of jihad and became some of the best brothers.

As soon as the Crusader forces entered Iraq to occupy it, he began preparing to confront them and inciting Muslims to do so. The Sheikh established a group in Haditha and prepared with them for jihad against the Americans. He began his work by collaborating and coordinating with jihadist groups that were active in the Anbar region. He started training his soldiers in combat skills, igniting the flames of war against the Crusaders in Haditha and its surroundings, and they began targeting military convoys.

After working with these sincere groups and in direct coordination with the Tawhid and Jihad group led by Sheikh Zarqawi, may Allah accept him, and after meeting with the two sheikhs Abu Muhammad al-Lebnani and Abu Anas al-Shami in Haditha, the Sheikh joined and pledged allegiance to the Tawhid and Jihad group, bringing his soldiers with him. He was then known by the nickname Abu Mahmoud, marking an important transition in his jihadist journey.

With the escalation of jihad in Iraq in general and Anbar in particular, the Sheikh became well-known among his brothers and met with the Prince Sheikh Zarqawi, may Allah have mercy on him, becoming very close to him. Sheikh Zarqawi spent a long time as a guest of Abu Omar al-Baghdadi, may Allah have mercy on them both.

As the Americans faced daily violent attacks, they recruited agents and spies to gather information on the mujahideen and their leaders. The Crusaders then learned that the Sheikh was one of the prominent leaders, making him one of the most wanted individuals by American forces in Anbar.

After that, the Sheikh moved to Baghdad, where he was working in the Sharia Authority of the Mujahideen Shura Council and was known by the nickname Abu Marwa at that time. He took on the responsibility of security in the Baghdad province for a period, which brought him close to Sheikh al-Zarqawi, may Allah accept him, and the Sheikh moved to the heart of the conflict between Muslims and infidels in Baghdad, inflicting heavy losses on the Crusaders there and their apostate collaborators, and Baghdad bears witness to that.

After significant jihadist and da'wah work in Baghdad alongside jihadist leaders, the Sheikh's role shifted to being the governor of Diyala, a period during which the Mujahideen had unprecedented control over the province. He then took on the overall responsibility for the provinces, becoming responsible for selecting emirs and governors in all territories controlled by the Mujahideen.

The Sheikh, may Allah have mercy on him, did not accept the joining of any soldier to the organization without knowing their beliefs and testing them. He would reject the joining of anyone who held a nationalist ideology fighting for democracy, and he was very meticulous about the conduct of the Mujahideen and the emirs, fearing that their actions could harm the reputation of Muslims and the organization.

After the martyrdom of Sheikh al-Zarqawi, may Allah have mercy on him, and the declaration of the Islamic State in Iraq, al-Baghdadi was announced as the Emir of the Islamic State of Iraq, and he was forced to accept this position by his brothers in the Shura Council. The Sheikh said: "By Allah, I repeatedly refused this matter; I only dreamed of being a soldier among the people, fighting against those who disbelieved in Allah until He is worshiped alone."

He continued to lead the Muslims and wage jihad against the Crusaders and apostates for many years, opening provinces under his leadership, and the Mujahideen controlled most of Iraq during those years. The Sheikh was keen on unity among the factions, sending messages to call for the previous factions to unite, and he met with many leaders of the Mujahideen and tribal chiefs, urging them to support the religion and the Muslims.

The Sheikh, may Allah have mercy on him, was generous and humble, with a noble character loved by all his brothers. He had good relationships with leaders and fighters due to his work with them, and he was very keen on the safety of his brothers, personally following up on all matters of the provinces, moving from one province to another.

He continued his jihad, patience, and confrontation against the infidels for many years, parting from family and loved ones, and losing many of his companions and brothers. However, none of the hardships deterred him from continuing his path until he passed away in 2010 after a six-hour confrontation with the Crusaders and apostates, during which he refused to surrender himself and those with him. He initiated the fight and battled them, and they could only resolve the battle after bombing the house with aircraft.



The Sheikh departed generously after living honorably, and we saw him smiling and looking forward to meeting his Lord.

May Allah have mercy on you, Abu Omar, for you were Indeed a great scholar and a noble Sheikh and leader